Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300 Washington, DC 20260-3501

Dear Committee Members,

We are writing in support of the issuance of a United States postage stamp to honor the lives of Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore. These individuals were influential leaders of the modern Civil Rights Movement, propelling the struggle for justice and equality far beyond the borders of their home in Brevard County, Florida. Today, they are remembered for their dignity, compassion, and emphasis on education.

Married on Christmas Day in 1926, Mr. and Mrs. Moore committed their lives to promoting justice for African-Americans. In 1934, Harry Moore founded the Brevard County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and later helped to organize a statewide conference of NAACP branches in 1941. He would later become a lightning rod for change in Florida through his investigation of lynchings, bombings, police brutality, and other mistreatment of African-Americans.

In 1946, Harry Moore co-founded the Progressive Voter's League, which resulted in the registration of over 100,000 African-American citizens. He also filed lawsuits to open the Democratic primary to African-American voters and to equalize the pay of black and white teachers in Florida. Because of their political activities, both Harry and Harriette Moore were fired from the Brevard County public school system. Despite this, Harry pressed on with his work for the NAACP and became the first paid Executive Secretary of the Florida NAACP and the first person in the nation to hold such a position.

Opposition to the Moores' work intensified and on Christmas night 1951, their 25th anniversary, a bomb exploded under their home as they slept. Harry Moore died on the way to the hospital and Harriette died nine days later, becoming one of the first individuals to be murdered during the civil rights movement.

The impact of Harry and Harriette Moore on the State of Florida and the nation is evident by their many recognitions:

- In 1998, the State of Florida provided \$700,000 to fund the Harry T. Moore Memorial Park in Mims, FL.
- In 1999, the State of Florida declared the Moore homesite in Mims, FL, as a Florida Historical Heritage Landmark.
- In 2004, the Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park and Museum opened in Mims, FL.

- In 2007, the State of Florida officially designated Harry T. Moore as a "Great Floridian", recognizing him as someone who made significant contributions to the progress and welfare of the State of Florida.
- In 2011, the Florida Department of Education added information about Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore to the Grade Four instructional benchmark Sunshine State Standards, which focuses on Florida's role in the Civil Rights Movement.
- In 2012, the Florida Legislature passed legislation designating State Highway 46 as the Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Highway.
- In 2013, Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore were selected by Governor Rick Scott for induction into the Florida Civil Rights Hall of Fame.
- In 2013, Congress passed legislation that was later signed into law designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 600 Florida Avenue in Cocoa, Florida, as the "Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore Post Office."
- In 2014, Harry and Harriette Moore were selected to be included in the Smithsonian's new National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Floridians are indebted to the life and work of Harry and Harriette Moore who embodied the sprit and vision of great Floridians and great Americans. We ask the Committee to give careful consideration to a postage stamp commemorating the lives of Harry and Harriette Moore. They made significant contributions to the history and progress of our nation and deserve our recognition.

Sincerely,

Bill Nelson

United States Senator

Bill Posey

Member of Congress

Gus M. Bilirakis

Member of Congress

Marco Rubio

United States Senator

Frederica S. Wilson

Member of Congress

Charlie Crist

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Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M. Member of Congress